

REMARKS

The present invention is directed to polymeric compositions having desirable physical characteristics such as a high elongation of approximately 100 percent or greater, and refractive indices of approximately 1.45 or greater, useful in the manufacture of ophthalmic devices.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McGee et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,336,797 (MCGEE).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). MCGEE discloses a macromer produced through the polymerization of N-(tris(dimethylpropylsiloxy)silylpropyl)methacrylamide, N-(tris(dimethylphenylsiloxy)silylpropyl)methacrylamide, N-(tris(dimethylethylsiloxy)silylpropyl)methacrylamide, and the like, in the presence of a functional chain transfer agent "(precursor of E)" (See e.g., Col.3, lines 44-50).

To the contrary, compositions of the present invention produced from siloxysilane monomers differ significantly from the MCGEE polymeric compositions produced through the polymerization of N-tris(trimethylpropylsiloxy)silylpropyl)methacrylamide and the like, in the presence of a functional chain transfer agent, the "(precursor of E)". The defined monomers of the present

invention, have no "E". Rather, the monomers of the present invention have ether linkages. For this reason, in addition to others not discussed herein, the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is inappropriate. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is thereby respectfully requested.

Claims 8-13 and 19-28 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to claims 8-13 and 19-28 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Based on the above remarks with respect to claim 7, the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is inappropriate. Accordingly, the objection to claims 8-13 and 19-28 is likewise inappropriate. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 8-13 and 19-28 is respectfully requested.

Based on the above remarks, applicants believe pending claims 7-13 and 19-28 now stand in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Should there be any questions regarding this communication, please contact the undersigned at (636) 226-3340.

Respectfully submitted,



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